and submit it through the concerned external partner along with their project proposals.

(b) to (d) Although representations have been received apprehending delays, project proposals, as and when received, are being processed expenditiously in a time bound manner, to prevent any delay.

Strengthening of NBFCs

4201. SHRIMATI S.G INDIRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to strengthen the Non-Banking Financial Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the NBFCs have urged that provisions of Debt Recovery Tribunal Act and the Securitisation Act available to banks and housing finance companies be extended to NBFCs to protect their assets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that the Non-Banking finance Companies (NBFCs) are playing an important role in asset creation particularly in transport sector and the RBI is taking steps to further support the non-banking financial companies sector.

(c) and (d) The representatives of NBFCs have been requesting the Reserve Bank for extension of Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) and SARFAESI Act to NBFCs as available to banks and housing finance companies. The matter is being examined in consultation with RBI.

Harassment of customers by private insurance companies

†4202. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that private sector insurance companies harass the consumers while making payments against their claims;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.